

# **Matthew 10:24-42**

March 31, 2019 – Rev. Rick Lyon

**Intro** - *Anybody notice anything different about the church this morning?*

**Someone writing about people's concept of a disciple and what a disciple really is:**

*“They have concluded that it's their duty to rush forward on their journey no matter what the weather; I, on the other hand, am for waiting for favorable wind and current. They're for risking all for God at the snap of a finger; I'm for taking advantage of every opportunity to secure my life and estate. They're for holding to their ideas even though all the world be against them; I'm for religion insofar as the times, conditions, and my safety allow it. They're for religion when walking in rags and abuse; I'm for it when it walks in silver slippers, in sunshine, and with applause.”*

## **1. Following Jesus involves reaching out to the lost.**

**Acts 1:8** - "You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

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## **2. Following Jesus involves helping those in need.**

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## **3. Following Jesus involves facing opposition.**

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**v.16** - "Behold I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves."

**v.17** - "Beware of men, they'll deliver you up to councils and whip you in their synagogues."

**v.22** - "You'll be hated by all for My name's sake."

**v.24** - A disciple isn't above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

**Isaiah 53:3** - "He was despised and rejected by men."

**John 1:11** - "He came to His own and His own didn't receive Him."

**1 Peter 2:8** - [Jesus is] "a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense."

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### **4. Following Jesus involves becoming more like Jesus.**

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### **5. Following Jesus involves courage.**

**v.26** - "Therefore don't fear them."

**Proverbs 29:25** - The fear of man brings a snare.

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**#1 - Don't be afraid--one day everything will be clear.**

**#2 - Don't be afraid--man's power is limited.**

**#3 - Don't be afraid--God values you.**

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### **6. Following Jesus involves a change in priorities.**

**Romans 10:9** - If you *confess* with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and *believe* in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

**Jeremiah 20:9** - "If I say I won't mention the LORD or speak in His name, His word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones! I'm worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it!"

**Elizabeth Elliot:** *I think there's a great deal of nonsense taught about this business of bearing one's cross. For example, when people shrug their shoulders and say, "Well, I suppose that's meant to be my cross," they suggest that the cross is some inevitable circumstance which can't be avoided. But the cross can be avoided. So I think that what Jesus is getting at here is the voluntary, positive acceptance of what He's asking of us, whatever it may be. This should be the dominant theme of our lives, "Yes, Lord, what do You want me to do?"*

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### **7. Following Jesus involves reward.**

**Jesus:** "Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and exclude you and mock you and curse you as evil because you follow the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because *great is your reward in heaven.*" (Luke 6:21-23)

**Paul:** Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. (2 Cor. 4:7)

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